



BOROUGH OF BLYTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

INCORPORATING THAT OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1953

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

"DINSDALE"

MARINE TERRACE

BLYTH

NORTHUMBERLAND



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MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman.....ALDERMAN DONNACHIE.

Vice-Chairman.....COUNCILLOR BARKER, G.W.

THE MAYOR.		COUNCILLOR MARLEY.	
ALDERMAN	CURRY.	„	RHODES.
COUNCILLOR	ALLISON.	„	ROBSON.
„	BELL.	„	RUTHERFORD.
„	BETHAM.	„	SHEPHERD.
„	ELDER.	„	SMITH.
„	HEPPLE.	„	STEEL.
„	KAY.	„	SUMMERS.
„	KENNEDY.	„	TANSEY.
„	LAING.	„	TWEDDLE.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1953

Medical Officer of Health	... A. DONALDSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
Senior Sanitary Inspector	... G. A. GILL, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspector	... N. F. GODFREY, M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspector	... W. ALLAN, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Temporary Clerk	... C. FELLOWS.
Temporary Shorthand Typist	... B. I. REDBURN.
Rodent Officer	... B. WADE.

BOROUGH OF BLYTH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1953

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Conditions in the Borough during the year 1953.

There was a slight increase in the population of the Borough—the figure being 34,270.

The Birth Rate is still being maintained at a figure well above the average for the country. The infantile mortality rate rose from the remarkably low figure of 17.8 per 1,000 live births to 29.12. There were 18 infant deaths, 9 of these in the first month of life and 13 from conditions thought to be unavoidable at present (6 due to congenital conditions, 4 due to difficult labours and 2 to prematurity).

There was a most heartening fall in the number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during 1953. In spite of intensified contact examination and increased use of X-rays the number notified was 34 fewer than in 1952.

For the fourth successive year no notifications of diphtheria were received.

There were no outbreaks of food poisoning which points to a high standard of food handling in the town.

I would like to draw the attention of the Council to the work being done in attempting to re-habilitate difficult or problem families. In my opinion it is one of the most important duties the department can perform for the community as a whole and if it is successful (and given sufficient support it should be) it can play an important role in combating crime, child neglect and juvenile delinquency.

I would like to thank again, the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support during the year and as usual to the other Council Departments who have co-operated with me during the year.

I am fortunate in having a staff who give their labours unstintingly and who work together as an efficient team and I would like to thank them wholeheartedly.

I remain,

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. DONALDSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough
of Blyth.

COMMENTS ON STATISTICS

Population :

The registrar-general's estimated mid-1953 population was 34,270. This is an increase of 260 over the figure for 1952.

Uncorrected Birth Rate :

The birth rate fell from 18.2 per 1,000 estimated home population to 18.0. This is still well above the average birth rate for England and Wales.

Crude Death Rate :

The death rate fell from 10.3 per 1,000 estimated home population to 9.7.

Infantile Mortality Rate : (Deaths of infants under 1 year).

The infant mortality rate rose to 29.12 per 1,000 live births. This is an increase from the figure of 17.8 of 1952 but it was not unexpected as the 1952 figure was extremely low and it was difficult to see how it could be maintained. It is probably a more accurate description of the conditions existing in this part of the country and the figure of 18 infant deaths is a satisfactory one, especially as 9 of these occurred in the first month of life. Thirteen of the infant deaths may be classified as unavoidable which leaves a very small figure for the remainder.

Neo Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 month)—This rate rose from 9.7 per 1,000 births to 14.56.

Maternal Mortality Rate :

There were no maternal deaths in Blyth during 1953.

Deaths :

The commonest cause of death was cardio-vascular disease which accounted for 188 deaths or 56% of the total. This was made up of 99 male cardio-vascular deaths (51% of total male deaths) and 89 female deaths (61% of total female deaths).

Cancer was the next commonest cause, there being 61 deaths which is 16 fewer than 1952. These account for 18% of the total deaths and were more or less divided equally between male and female—33 and 28 respectively.

The greatest number of deaths were recorded in January and the fewest in August.

Infectious Diseases :

There were brisk epidemics of measles and whooping cough in 1953—there being 747 and 190 notifications respectively.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis notifications dropped to 62—a fall of 34 from 1952.

There were no cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis.

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT, 1953

Statistics for the Borough of Blyth for the last ten years

Year.	Popu- lation.	Deaths.	Death Rate.	Live Births.	Birth Rate.	Infantile Deaths.	Infant Death Rate.	Neo- Natal Death Rate.	No. Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified.							
									Measles.	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria	Acute Polio- myelitis	Bowel Complaints Dysentery etc.	Tuberculosis	
															Pul.	Non- Pul.
1944	30,540	397	13.0	705	23.1	50	70.9	27.9	723	116	156	116	—	2	57	17
1945	31,080	394	12.6	658	21.2	38	57.7	22.8	87	69	79	108	—	11	56	8
1946	33,020	440	13.3	764	23.1	48	62.8	22.9	641	44	67	51	1	2	55	7
1947	33,920	469	13.8	858	25.2	45	52.4	33.4	256	29	122	23	1	—	47	11
1948	33,980	362	10.6	737	21.7	40	54.2	20.8	673	89	182	10	1	3	57	19
1949	35,300	422	11.9	708	20.0	28	39.5	24.0	352	39	98	1	1	—	72	12
1950	35,280	417	11.8	660	18.8	31	46.9	31.8	652	44	282	—	4	5	84	8
1951	34,110	453	13.2	674	19.7	21	31.1	14.8	490	57	93	—	—	1	88	2
1952	34,010	352	10.3	618	18.2	11	17.8	9.7	346	65	45	—	1	6	96	7
1953	34,270	335	9.7	618	18.0	18	29.12	14.56	747	83	190	—	—	3	62	11

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were 1,132 cases of infectious disease notified in Blyth during 1953—an increase of 498 over 1952 and this increase almost entirely due to a measles epidemic.

Measles.

There were 747 notifications during 1953. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough.

There were 190 notifications and no deaths. Immunisation against whooping cough is strongly advocated and it should be commenced at the fifth or sixth week of life as this disease is most dangerous under the age of one year.

Scarlet Fever.

There were 83 notifications of scarlet fever. There were no deaths.

Para-Typhoid Fever.

There were two cases of this disease notified and it was found that a relative staying in the house was a chronic carrier. The carrier was given treatment but failed to respond and is being kept under close supervision.

Food Poisoning.

There were five cases of food poisoning notified—all isolated cases.

Diphtheria.

There were no cases of diphtheria notified for the fourth year in succession.

Tuberculosis.

There were 73 notifications of this disease, 62 pulmonary and 11 non-pulmonary. This is a decrease of 30 from 1952—a more detailed account of this disease will be given in another part of this report.

Annual Returns for Ten Years of Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases

Year.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Tuberculosis (Pul.)	Tuberculosis (Other)	Whooping Cough	Measles	Malaria	Para Typhoid Fever	Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	Acute Encephalitis (Infective)	Food Poisoning
1944	116	116	12	39	3	1	2	—	57	17	156	723	—	—	—	—	—	—
1945	69	108	6	35	3	9	10	3	56	8	79	87	1	1	—	—	—	—
1946	44	51	13	58	2	3	1	—	55	7	67	641	1	1	1	—	—	—
1947	29	23	13	50	1	8	—	2	47	11	122	256	1	—	1	—	—	—
1948	89	10	18	32	2	3	—	—	57	19	182	673	—	3	1	—	—	—
1949	39	1	6	27	3	1	—	—	72	12	98	352	—	—	1	—	—	1
1950	44	—	17	58	—	5	5	—	84	8	282	652	1	—	3	1	1	—
1951	57	—	10	54	—	5	1	—	88	2	93	490	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	65	—	10	29	3	2	6	—	96	7	45	346	—	—	1	—	—	24
1953	83	—	8	16	6	1	1	—	62	11	190	747	—	2	—	—	—	5

Diphtheria

Year.	Cases.	Deaths.	Remarks.
1941	300	20	Not Immunised
1942	145	5	„ „
1943	98	3	„ „
1944	116	6	„ „
1945	108	3	1—Immunised Dec., 1942
1946	51	1	Not Immunised
1947	23	Nil	
1948	10	Nil	
1949	1	Nil	
1950	Nil	Nil	
1951	Nil	Nil	
1952	Nil	Nil	
1953	Nil	Nil	

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Year ended 31st December, 1953

Immunisation in Relation to Child Population

Percentage of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1953 :—

Children immunised 0-15 years—91%

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND AGE DISTRIBUTION,
1953

	Scarlet Fever		Whoop- ing Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles	
					Para- lytic		Non- Para- lytic			
	M	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified : Total (all ages)	37	46	94	96	—	—	—	—	383	364
Final numbers after correction :										
Under 1 year	1	—	14	10	—	—	—	—	21	19
1-2 years	6	4	22	26	—	—	—	—	115	108
3-4 „	6	10	24	22	—	—	—	—	136	130
5-9 „	20	27	32	38	—	—	—	—	106	105
10-14 „	3	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
15-24 „	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
25 and over	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages)	37	46	94	96	—	—	—	—	383	364
	Acute Pneu- monia		Dy- sentery		Acute Encephalitis				Food Poison- ing	
					Infec- tive		Post Infec- tious			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified : Total (all ages)	8	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
Final numbers after correction :										
Under 5 years	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
5-14 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-44 „	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-64 „	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages)	8	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
	Ery sipelas		Menin- gococcal Infec- tion		Other Notifiable Diseases				Para Typhoid	
					Original		Final			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified : Total (all ages)	4	4	—	1	Puerperal Pyrexia				1	1
Final numbers after correction :										
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—					—	—
5-14 years	—	—	—	1					—	—
15-44 „	1	1	—	—					1	1
45-64 „	2	1	—	—					—	—
65 and over	1	2	—	—					—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—					—	—
Total (all ages)	4	4	—	1					1	1

Notifiable Diseases, 1953—Age Distribution

DISEASES.	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	Over 65 years	Totals.
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	3	7	7	9	47	4	4	—	1	—	—	—	83
Whooping Cough.....	24	28	20	25	21	70	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	190
Measles	39	113	112	128	137	211	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	747
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	3	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	2	3	1	16
Dysentery.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Para-typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	—	—	—	6
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	3	8
Tuberculosis—Pul.	—	—	—	1	—	6	4	15	10	10	7	8	1	62
Tuberculosis—Non-Pul.	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	3	2	1	—	—	11
Totals	69	146	141	164	168	337	14	27	18	19	10	14	5	1132

TUBERCULOSIS

This disease has been a constant source of worry to the Health Department, Chest Clinic and general practitioners for a long time.

There were 10 deaths from this disease in Blyth in 1953—one less than in 1952.

There were 62 notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis during 1953 which is 34 fewer than in 1952 and a very much lower figure than expected when the average number of notifications for the 5 years ending 1952 was 79. This may be a coincidence and it may be that Blyth has had a luckier year in this respect than anticipated.

I would like to think, however, that the work done by the general practitioners, the Chest Clinic, the Health Department, the Housing Committee and the After-Care Committee during the last 2-3 years is beginning to show good effects.

The general practitioners have been given facilities for diagnosis that did not exist two years ago and I have no reason to doubt that they are notifying all cases which come to their notice.

The factory doctor for the area has been most co-operative in getting young people X-rayed when they start work. The Chest Clinic has been most rigorous in the tracing of contacts.

All these might be considered valid reasons for an *increase* in notification. There is hope, therefore, that the control of the disease is being established and the figures for the next few years will be watched with interest.

The Chest Clinic is the centre where we hope for the greatest results. The most modern methods of treatment are carried out and what is most important, every effort is being made to prevent the disease from spreading. Contacts of known cases are offered X-ray facilities and visits are made to the families concerned to persuade them to take advantage of these.

B.C.G. Vaccination is a preventive measure which is being used more and more—especially in infants and young persons. Child contacts who show that they are negative reactors (i.e. they have never received an infective dose

of tuberculosis bacteria) are offered vaccination. The vaccination will give an artificial immunity to the child and will give an increased resistance to the disease and so diminish the possibilities of infection taking place. Children who are positive reactors (i.e. children who have become naturally immune) are offered X-ray facilities to exclude the possibility of any active disease.

This scheme is being extended to child welfare clinics and to schools and tuberculin testing is becoming part of the routine school medical examination. It is, of course, dependent upon parental consent.

From December, 1951 to December, 1953—358 children received B.C.G. Vaccination. The majority of these children were contacts of cases.

At the end of 1953 there were 484 cases on the tuberculosis register—426 pulmonary and 58 non-pulmonary.

Tuberculosis case rate per 1,000 population :—

1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
8.1	7.5	8.1	9.7	10.2	12.9	14.2

TUBERCULOSIS, 1944-53

Table showing the number of Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases notified in the respective years and the number of deaths which have occurred and the time elapsed from notification to death.

Year.	Number of Notifi- cations.	Number of Deaths.	Period within which death occurred.						
			Under 1 yr.	1—2 yrs.	2—3 yrs.	3—4 yrs.	4—5 yrs.	5—6 yrs.	7—8 yrs.
1953	62	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	96	7	6	1	—	—	—	—	—
1951	88	9	7	—	2	—	—	—	—
1950	84	10	7	3	—	—	—	—	—
1949	72	14	5	3	5	1	—	—	—
1948	56	19	7	8	3	1	—	—	—
1947	47	24	6	12	3	1	1	1	—
1946	55	26	21	2	2	—	—	1	—
1945	56	21	12	7	1	—	—	1	—
1944	58	25	5	5	6	7	1	—	1
Totals	674	160	81	41	22	10	2	3	1

Tuberculosis, 1953

	Notifications.				Deaths.			
	Males.		Females.		Males.		Females.	
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.
Totals	32	6	30	5	9	1	4	—
Totals	38		35		10		4	
Grand Totals	73				14			

Tuberculosis, 1941-53

Year.	All forms of Tuberculosis notifications per year.	Number of Deaths per year	Death Rate per 1,000 Population
1941	57	20	0.53
1942	48	31	0.98
1943	65	20	0.65
1944	74	30	0.98
1945	64	24	0.77
1946	62	38	1.1
1947	58	37	1.1
1948	76	35	1.0
1949	84	27	0.76
1950	92	17	0.48
1951	90	23	0.56
1952	103	13	0.38
1953	73	14	0.40

Tuberculosis, 1953

Statement of Tuberculosis (as per Register).

	MALES.		FEMALES.		TOTALS.
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	
(a) Number of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at commencement of year	200	25	191	24	440
(b) Number of new cases notified under the "Regulations of 1930" for the first time during the year	32	6	30	5	73
(c) Number of cases restored to Register having been removed previous to 1953	3	—	3	2	8
(d) Number of cases added to Register and brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification	1	—	1	—	2
(e) Number of cases removed from the Register during the year...	20	3	15	1	39
(f) Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year	216	28	210	30	484

Tuberculosis, 1953

Summary of information extracted from Records Departments relating to cases removed from the Tuberculosis Register of the Borough during 1953.

	DEATHS.				Grand Total.	
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.			
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		
	9	4	1	—		
Total	13		1		14	
	RECOVERED.					
	7	2	2	—		
	9		2			11
	REMOVED FROM DISTRICT.					
	4	9	—	1		
	13		1			14
					39	

Tuberculosis, 1953

Age Groups	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0-1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	6	4	—	1	1	—	—	—
15-25	4	11	—	2	—	—	—	—
25-35	3	7	2	1	—	1	—	—
35-45	5	5	1	1	1	1	—	—
45-55	6	1	1	—	3	2	1	—
55-65	7	1	—	—	3	—	—	—
Over 65	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	32	30	6	5	9	4	1	—
Grand Totals	62		11		13		1	

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area.—No change. *Acreage.*—6,487.

Population.—(Registrar-General's Estimate) 34,270

Rate Value.—(1st April, 1953) £186,470

Product of Penny Rate (estimated) £727

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Comparability Factor.—Births 1.02. Deaths 1.15.

	1953	1952
The uncorrected Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated Home population	18.0	18.20
The standardised Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated Home population	18.36	18.56
The Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated Home population	9.7	10.30
The standardised Death Rate per 1,000 estimated Home population	11.15	11.84
The Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	29.12	17.80
The Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (dying in 4 weeks) per 1,000 Births	14.56	9.70
The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	32.87	17.48
Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 estimated Home population	0.40	0.38
Maternal Mortality	Nil	Nil

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Number of Births (Live)	658	764	858	737	708	660	674	618	618
Number of Deaths	394	440	469	362	422	417	453	352	335
Number of Births in excess of Deaths	264	324	389	375	286	243	221	266	283

Infantile Deaths and Infantile Mortality Rates for Ten Year Period—1944-1953

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Deaths	50	38	48	45	40	28	31	21	11	18
Infant Mortality Rate	70.9	57.7	62.8	52.4	54.2	39.5	46.9	31.15	17.8	29.12

The principal causes of Infantile Deaths were as follows :—

Broncho Pneumonia	4
Meningocele and Hydrocephalus	1
German Measles	1
Congenital abnormality of Genito-urinary system 1 (Neo-Natal)	1
Congenital Heart	2
Intracranial Haemorrhage 3 (Neo-Natal)	3
Atelectasis 1 (Neo-Natal)	1
Difficult Birth 1 (Neo-Natal)	1
Asphyxia—suffocated in bed 1 (Neo-Natal)	1
Prematurity 2 (Neo-Natal)	2
Meningo Myelocele	1
(Neo-Natal Deaths—Infants who died within 4 weeks).	
9 (Neo-Natal)	—
Total	18

Infant Deaths			
<i>Possibly Avoidable.</i>		<i>Unavoidable.</i>	
Broncho Pneumonia	4	Meningocele and	
Asphyxia—suffocated		Hydrocephalus	1
in bed	1	German Measles	1
		Congenital abnormality of Genito-urinary system	1
		Congenital Heart	2
		Intracranial Haemorrhage	3
		Atelectasis	1
		Difficult Birth	1
		Prematurity	2
		Meningo myelocele	1
	—		—
	5		13
	—		—

Deaths from Certain Causes, 1953

Code No	International Classification.	Male.	Female.	Total.
001	Silico tuberculosis	1	—	1
002	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	4	9
053-4	Septicaemia	1	—	1
085-1	Measles with pneumonia	—	2	2
086	German Measles	1	—	1
146	Malignant Neoplasm—Nasopharynx	—	1	1
148	„ „ —Pharynx	—	1	1
150	„ „ —Oesophagus	—	1	1
151	„ „ —Stomach	13	9	22
153	„ „ —Large Intestine	1	1	2
154	„ „ —Rectum	2	1	3
155	„ „ —Gall Bladder	—	2	2
157	„ „ —Pancreas	—	1	1
161	„ „ —Larynx	1	—	1
162	„ „ —Bronchogenic	9	1	10
170	„ „ —Breast	—	4	4
171	„ „ —Cervix Uteri	—	4	4
172	„ „ —Uterus	—	1	1
177	„ „ —Prostate	2	—	2
179	„ „ —Genital Organs	1	—	1
180	„ „ —Kidney	1	—	1
181	„ „ —Bladder	1	—	1
193	„ „ —Brain	1	1	2
200-1	Lymphosarcoma Mediastinum	1	—	1
204	Leukaemia	1	—	1
241	Bronchial Asthma.....	—	1	1
260	Diabetes	—	3	3
330	Subarachnoid Haemorrhage	2	2	4
331	Cerebral Haemorrhage	13	15	28
332	Cerebral Thrombosis.....	10	8	18
334	Cerebral Arterio sclerosis	—	1	1
340-3	Bacterial Meningitis	1	—	1
345	Multiple sclerosis	1	—	1
353-3	Epilepsy—idiopathic	1	—	1
420	Arteriosclerosis	—	2	2
420-1	Coronary Thrombosis	29	19	48
420-2	Arterio-sclerosis with Angina Pectoris	—	1	1
421	Mitral Stenosis	1	1	2
422	Cardio vascular degeneration	18	13	31
422-1	Myocardial degeneration with Arterio- sclerosis	2	3	5
422-2	Other myocardial degeneration	6	9	15
433-1	Auricular fibrillation.....	—	1	1
434-1	Congestive heart failure	9	9	18
434-2	Left Ventricular failure	5	3	8
441	Essential malignant hypertension	—	1	1
442	Hypertensive heart disease	1	—	1
465	Pulmonary embolism	—	1	1
480	Influenzal Pneumonia	—	1	1
481	Influenza	2	—	2
490	Pneumonia	2	—	2
491	Broncho Pneumonia	8	2	10
500	Acute Bronchitis	1	—	1
502	Chronic Bronchitis	1	—	1
522	Hypostatic Pneumonia	4	2	6
593	Uraemia	1	—	1
600	Kidney Infection	—	1	1
610	Prostatic enlargement	3	—	3
751	Myelomeningocele.....	1	1	2
754	Congenital heart disease	2	1	3
757-1	Polycystic disease of Kidney	1	—	1
757-3	Congenital abnormality of the Genito- urinary system	—	1	1

Code No.	International Classification.	Male.	Female.	Total.
760	Haemorrhage—Brain	1	1	2
761	Other birth injury.....	1	—	1
762	Atelectasis	1	—	1
774	Prematurity	—	2	2
794	Senility	1	2	3
E.800	Railway accident	2	—	2
E.812	Motor vehicle accident—pedestrian	1	—	1
E.831	Accident to pedal cyclist	1	—	1
E.840	Street car accident	1	—	1
E.904	Accidental fall	—	1	1
E.910	Fall of earth—Asphyxia	4	—	4
E.911	Crushed by coal tub	2	—	2
E.972	Suicide—coal gas poisoning.....	3	—	3
E.974	Suicide by Hanging	4	—	4
E.975	Suicide by Drowning	1	—	1
E.976	Suicide by Revolver shot.....	1	—	1
N.948	Burn—extensive	—	1	1
N.991	Asphyxia by bedclothes	—	1	1
		191	144	335

CANCER

<i>Type.</i>	1953		1952		1951		1950	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
All causes	33	28	42	35	31	32	34	32
	61		77		63		66	
Bronchogenic (Cancer of the lung)	10		7		7		7	
Stomach	22		13		18		19	
Intestine	5		15		6		13	
Female Organs	9		14		11		10	

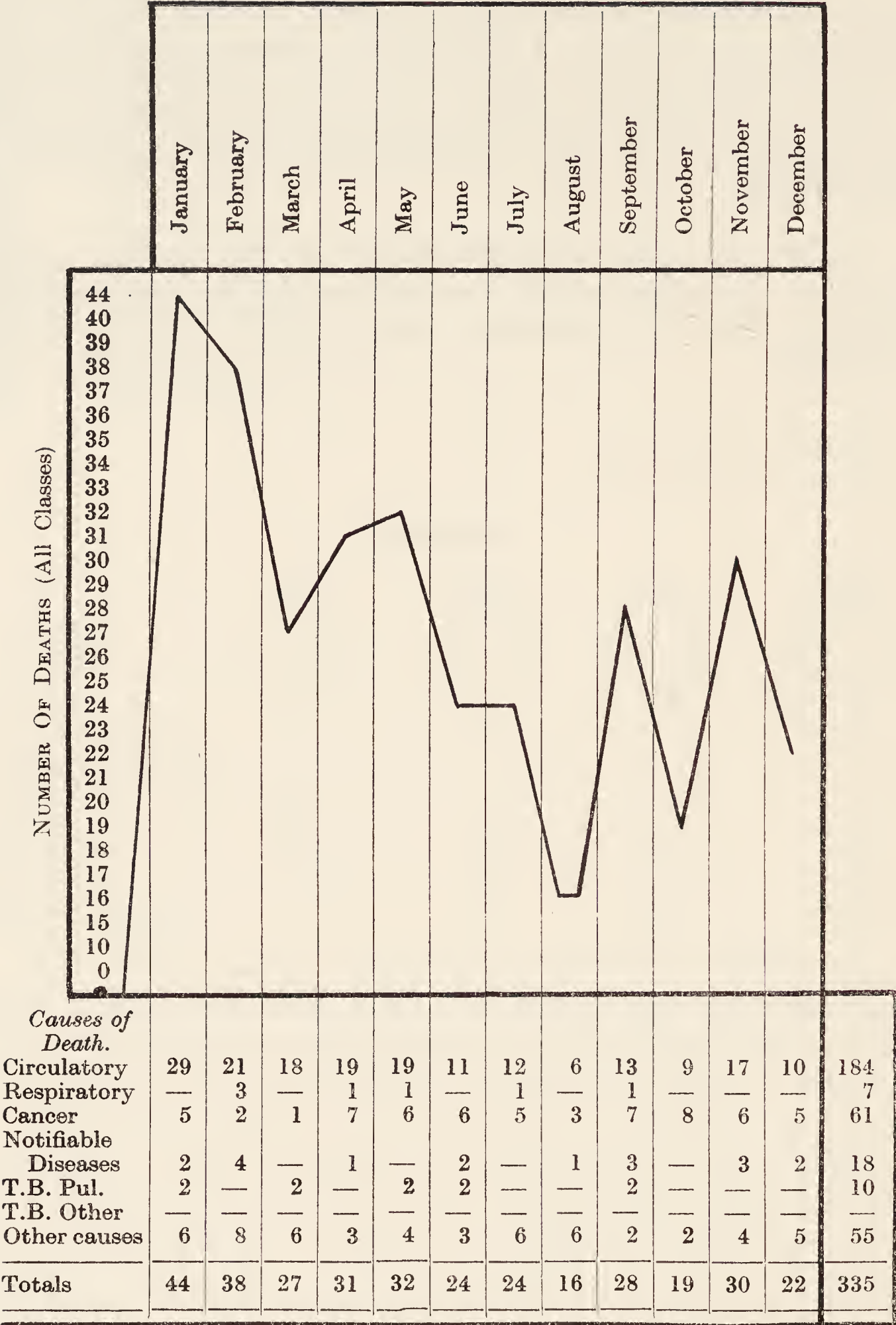
The above table shows the registered deaths from cancer in the years 1950-1953. It will be seen that there is little variation in the total number of deaths and even very little variation in the deaths due to specific types of cancer.

As far as cancer of the lung is concerned it is more commonly a cause of death in the male than in the female. Over the four years, 26 males have died from cancer of the lung and 5 females. I would be reluctant to attribute any reason for this. Both men and women smoke these days although it is possible that men of the age group concerned have been smoking longer and more heavily than the women of the same age group. Cancer of the lung, however, occurs in non-smokers and there is no reason to believe that the tremendous increase in petrol-driven transport with its obnoxious combustion fumes is not a cause of lung irritation and subsequent cancer growth—or even the dust from the tarred roads—tar is known to be a carcinogenic agent.

Assessment of primary causes of cancer is dangerous and misleading at present, and only further research can produce the answer. I think that a step in that direction would be the notification of cancer by general practitioners so that a full history of each case may be obtained as early as possible with a view to compiling accurate statistics of the disease.

The use of mass radiography by the general public (and the response in Blyth continues to be good) has had no real effect in producing early cases in any significant numbers.

Deaths, 1953



Cancer Deaths for 5 Years, 1949-1953

Year	Site.	Under 45 yrs	45— 55	56— 65	66— 75	Over 75 yrs	M.	F.	Total
1949	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(2) Digestive Tract	—	5	11	13	12	20	21	41
	(3) Respiratory System	—	1	5	3	—	7	2	9
	(4) Genito-urinary System	—	—	6	4	—	5	5	10
	(5) Other Organs	1	—	3	3	3	4	6	10
		1	6	25	23	15	36	34	70
1950	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1
	(2) Digestive Tract	2	5	6	11	11	20	15	35
	(3) Respiratory System	—	1	2	3	1	6	1	7
	(4) Genito-urinary System	1	—	2	3	2	3	5	8
	(5) Other Organs	—	—	2	6	2	5	5	10
		3	6	13	23	16	35	26	61
1951	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(2) Digestive Tract	2	2	8	11	7	15	15	30
	(3) Respiratory System	1	3	2	1	1	6	2	8
	(4) Genito-urinary System	—	1	3	2	2	5	3	8
	(5) Other Organs	1	2	5	4	3	4	11	15
		4	8	18	18	13	30	31	61
1952	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(2) Digestive Tract	—	6	9	14	15	29	15	44
	(3) Respiratory System	—	2	1	4	—	6	1	7
	(4) Genito-urinary System	—	3	1	3	3	7	3	10
	(5) Other Organs	3	2	2	5	4	—	16	16
		3	13	13	26	22	42	35	77
1953	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(2) Digestive Tract	2	5	3	16	3	16	13	29
	(3) Respiratory System	2	2	3	3	—	9	1	10
	(4) Genito-urinary System	2	2	1	2	—	3	4	7
	(5) Other Organs	4	3	3	2	3	5	10	15
		10	12	10	23	6	33	28	61

CANCER MORTALITY, 1953

Situation of Disease and Age Groups, in Years.

Site.	Under 45 yrs.		45—55		56—65		66—75		Over 75 yrs.		Totals.		Grand Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
<i>Digestive Tract.</i>													
Colon and Caecum ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	2
Rectum	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	2	1	3
Stomach	1	—	2	3	3	—	6	5	1	1	13	9	22
Pancreas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Oesophagus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
<i>Respiratory System.</i>													
Bronchi	2	—	2	—	3	—	2	1	—	—	9	1	10
<i>Genito-Urinary System.</i>													
Cervix Uteri...	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
Prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	2
Bladder	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Uterus	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
<i>Other Organs.</i>													
Breast	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	4	4
Larynx	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Kidney	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
Brain	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Mediastinum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Nasopharynx	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Gall Bladder	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	2
Pharynx	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Male Genital organs	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Male	6	—	5	—	6	—	13	—	3	—	33	—	
Female	—	4	—	7	—	4	—	10	—	3	—	28	61

MORTUARY

In April, 1953, a new mortuary and post-mortem room was completed and ready for use. This is a new building which belongs to the Borough of Blyth and comprises a mortuary, cold room, post-mortem room, a pathologist's room, waiting room, lobby and viewing room.

The building is intended for the use of the town, the port and any neighbouring districts which find it necessary to use this mortuary. The design and structure is modern and extremely well planned. Thanks must be given to the Borough Engineer for the work he carried out in this respect. The fittings are excellent and follow the lines recommended by eminent pathologists.

Every effort is made to deal with the bodies as they are brought in, as quickly and as expeditiously as possible ; to see that they are washed and properly covered, and facilities for viewing the body are available on request.

Pathologists who carry out post-mortems at Blyth have been very lavish with their praise of the design of the building and find it a great improvement on the previous inadequate facilities.

Up to the end of the year the premises had been used as follows :—

Borough of Blyth	6 Deaths	Post-mortems	1
River Blyth Port			
Health Authority	1 „	„	1
Bedlington U.D.C.	6 „	„	6

SICK BENEFIT SCHEME

During 1953, 279 workmen lost work through sickness and injury. One hundred and fifty-six attended the Health Department and most cases were seen more than once.

	1950	1951	1952	1953
Number of workmen sick	129	197	258	279
Number of days lost by sickness (six day week)	3,672	4,635	7,403½	6,836
Number of workmen employed	255	440	491	504
Average length of time off sick (days)	28½	24	28½	25
Percentage of workmen sick during the year	50%	44.8%	52.5%	55.3%
Number of days lost per 100 workmen employed	1,400	1,053	1,508	1,356
Number of days off sick.	Number of workmen off sick for that period			
	1950	1951	1952	1953
1— 3	9	15	13	24
4— 7	14	29	32	31
8—14	26	32	44	56
15—21	20	35	39	43
22—28	12	18	22	23
29—35	13	13	21	19
36—42	5	9	19	20
43—49	3	10	8	12
50—56	5	5	9	13
57—63	2	7	5	8
64—70	6	8	7	5
71—77	5	1	5	3
78—84	8	3	5	2
84+	1	11	29	20
	129	196	258	279

The commonest period of absence was two to three weeks.

The commonest cause of absence was asthma and bronchitis but this was closely followed by injuries at work, and occasionally at home, or due to sport. Minor injuries which were incapacitating were bruising and crushing of fingers and toes which have increased over previous years. These injuries take a long time to heal. The next group

causing considerable incapacity was the injury to the spine, lumbago and fibrositis. There was a brisk outbreak of influenza in 1953, which caused loss of work up to three weeks and also a larger percentage than usual of throat infections.

The total number of days lost, decreased from last year although more men were employed.

It would appear that the number of days lost per 100 workmen will always be above 1,000.

PROBLEM FAMILIES

This subject has been a focus of interest during 1953 in Blyth and has caused considerable controversy as to the methods to be adopted in tackling the problem.

I think that it should be understood that it is no innovation of the twentieth century. Problem Families, social problem groups—call them what you will—have existed since the world began. There have always been families, even countries, that could be called “problems.” There have always been families less capable of overcoming the struggle through life, who have failed for a variety of reasons to live in a manner that contemporary society lays down as a standard. There are families who live above any accepted standard and there are families who, unaided have no hope of ever attaining the first rung of the ladder.

Why has this subject become so prominent at the present time? Is it because there are more problem groups? I cannot believe that to be the reason. I prefer to believe that the further back we go into the past the darker becomes the picture of social conditions. Britain one hundred years ago was a country where the majority of the workers endured dreadful social conditions. The people lived in slums or hovels, in dirt and squalor without amenities of any kind. Working conditions were very much the same. Long hours were worked in badly lighted, badly ventilated, cold, dirty factories or workshops. Disease was rife—Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid, Typhus, Smallpox and Tuberculosis were accepted as inevitable. Maternal mortality and infant mortality were so high that it was almost a miracle that the population continued to increase. Against such a background the problem family was lost—problem families were “normal” families in certain industrial localities.

The middle of the twentieth century sees a complete change. Housing conditions are better than they have ever been ; working conditions are, in the main, very good ; infectious disease, although still with us, is so well controlled as to be of no major importance and infantile mortality has reached the stage where research is taking place to deal with the small hard core.

Against this off white background, the problem family stands out as a very black spot. The distribution of these spots depends to a great extent on the type of locality dealt with. The family, however, is usually of a typical pattern—e.g. large numbers of children, some being feeble minded, dirty, perhaps verminous, under clothed and possibly under-fed, living in squalor : the sleeping accommodation invariably is inadequate and consists of a broken bed with a bundle of rags for bed clothes, often accompanied with the stench of stale urine and even faecal accumulations. The kitchen or living room usually has a table with an array of dirty utensils, scraps of food, slabs of margarine, open tins of condensed milk or dirty milk bottles, all lying on a filthy, grease-stained cloth or paper. The house contains the minimum of furniture, usually dilapidated

So much for the description—what are the reasons and what is the remedy ?

It has been said that the Problem Family commonly presents five features.

- (a) Subnormal intelligence in one or both parents.
- (b) Instability of character distinguishable from sub-normal intelligence.
- (c) Intractable ineducability.
- (d) Squalid environment.
- (e) The presence of numerous neglected and often unwanted children.

Mental subnormality seldom amounts to a certifiable mental defect and thus, existing as it does without notification or treatment, it provides the most important cause. This is especially so when coupled with the instability of character featured in laziness, lack of perseverance, the dislike of regular employment. The other anti-social influences which have an important bearing on this type of family are gambling, drinking and association with

known criminals or juvenile delinquents. There may be an added feature—chronic ill health of the housewife due in large measure to excessive childbearing and lack of proper medical attention even although this can be obtained.

These are the main causes but there are many inter-linked subsidiary ones.

And what is the remedy ? Strong measures ? Armies of officials, cleansing orders, Court orders with imprisonment or fine for failure to comply therewith ? Eviction ? Out into the street with the family, lock, stock, and barrel ? If the problem could be dealt with as easily as that, how wonderful it would be.

Let us examine the case for eviction :—

1. It would rid the landlord (private or Council) of undesirable tenants.
2. It would prove a deterrent to similarly placed families.

No. 1 may be quite true, but some authority would have to find accommodation for the women and children at a fantastic cost and it is doubtful if sufficient institutional accommodation is available to deal with all the problem families.

No. 2 is quite erroneous. The other problem families would have forgotten the incident within a few weeks—if they were ever aware of it at all.

The official cleansing order, fine or imprisonment is not one bit better. The family would almost certainly be unable to pay the fine and the imprisonment of the father or mother would be no more than a temporary loss and it is doubtful if there would even be a loss in income. The family would learn nothing from Court action and would more likely be embittered by it.

These families require a form of training and education which cannot be given to them by the existing agencies—official or voluntary. They require time spent on them by someone able to deal with their problems firmly and sympathetically, and able to gain their confidence. Very often mental retardation exists in one or both parents and this means that endless patience must be exercised in attempting rehabilitation. Social workers concerned in this work must have very light case loads in order that they may focus their efforts on a few families over a long period.

The aim should be to try to help the children to reach a higher living standard than they have known.

The help of every agency must be exploited on behalf of these families. The Health Department, the Children's Officer, the Probation Officer, the Magistrate, the Health Visitor, the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector and every other voluntary body that can be interested.

A committee of officials from these groups should meet to discuss ways and means of dealing with the families. Whenever possible the number of people visiting the house should be reduced to a minimum of absolute necessity, but help in any form for a particular family should be given by every department or organisation.

Some authorities advocate the segregation of these families into colonies and make it an obligation for them to remain there until they show improvement. Some authorities favour the dilution of these families throughout the district—hoping that they will improve by the example of good tenants.

I do not think it matters where they live. If they qualify for the problem family group they will never improve on their own efforts and unless help is given they will continue to exist in a squalid, dirty, and hand to mouth state.

The number of real problem families in Blyth is not large but there are many more heading for that title in spite of the work done for them by the social services of the district and county, and collectively they are a liability of some magnitude to the town.

With many others, I am convinced that the expenditure of money on these families, to enable the children to be helped, would be an economic proposition and, conversely, if nothing is done to tackle this work soon, the ultimate cost to the community in dealing with juvenile delinquency illiterate and immoral teenagers, and housing repairs, will be enormous.

These families in many ways constitute a canker in a town but they cannot be cut out—prevention and cure must come from education in its widest sense.

THE FOOD YOU EAT

In 1953 Blyth had no outbreaks of food poisoning. Since 1949 there have been two such outbreaks—both in 1952—and in both cases the food traders of the town were entirely blameless.

Blyth is well served in respect of traders dealing with food stuffs. The standard is on the whole a high one and the Health Department maintains a close watch on all such shops and catering establishments. Traders are given advice on equipment and methods of handling food and there is evidence of close collaboration between the firms concerned and the department. The Health department feels that methods of suggestion and persuasion give better results than threats of prosecution and the low incidence of food poisoning outbreaks in the community points to its effectiveness.

The housewife, however, is the person who is able to have the last word in this matter, and upon her discernment in her choice of establishment lies the ultimate achievement of the highest possible standard being obtained.

By the middle of 1954 rationing will have virtually ceased to exist and there is nothing to prevent the housewife demanding and obtaining the very best type of service in respect of the food premises she patronises. Where there is any suggestion of slovenliness or falling off in hygienic standards either by management or employees there is nothing to prevent her from taking her custom elsewhere. If she does so and if she makes it quite plain why she is doing so, she will be rendering a great service to the general public, for no one likes to be told that their methods are dirty or inferior and this applies particularly to food premises. There is nothing worse than seeing open food-stuffs being served by assistants with a cigarette dangling from their lips and every effort should be made to report such offences. Where there are apparently glaring faults—dirty hands or dirty overalls, she should not be backward in complaining as well to the Health Department where her grievances will receive every consideration.

The Health Department has done much to raise the hygienic standards of food production but it is to the housewife we must look in order to apply the necessary finishing touches.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Bacteriological

(The Public Health Laboratory Service, Newcastle General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne).

A. *Pathological.*

(1) Throat, Nose and Ear Swabs.

Corynebacterium	Diphtheria Present	Nil	
	Not found	18—	18
Haemolytic Streptococci	Present	43	
	Not found	74—	117
Vincent's	Present	1	
	Not found	10—	11

(2) *Sputum.*

B. Tuberculosis	Present	86	
	Not found	461—	547
„ „ (Culture)	Present	8	
	Not found	51	
Laryngeal swabs.			
Ziehl Neelsen—Acid fast bacilli	Not found	4	
„ „ (Culture)	Present	2	
	Not found	2	

(3) *Faeces.*

Sh. Sonnei, isolated	1	
Salm. typhimurium, isolated	7	
Salm. paratyphi B., isolated	8	
B. tuberculosis	Not found	2
Ziehl Neelsen—Acid fast bacilli	Not found	2
No Pathogens isolated		45

(4) *Blood.*

Paul Bunnell test	Negative	3
Growth of meningococci		1

(5) Pus. (Swabs)

(6) Other swabs

B. *Water, Milk, etc.*

(1) *Water samples.*

(a) Bacteriological	95
---------------------------	----

(2) *Milk samples.*

(a) For B. Tuberculosis	40
-------------------------------	----

(b) For Methylene Blue	40
------------------------------	----

(c) For Pasteurised Milk :—

Methylene Blue	43
----------------------	----

Phosphatase Test	43
------------------------	----

Turbidity Test	2
----------------------	---

(a) Sterility test on Milk Bottles	78
--	----

(3) *Ice-Cream.*

(a) Bacteriological—Methylene Blue.	20
--	----

(b) Swabs from equipment, etc.	9
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Other Specimens.

Bacteriological—Bread	1
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Chemical—Meat pie with foreign substance	1
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ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH 1953

Vital Statistics

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1953. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales.	160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London).	160 Smaller Towns (Resi- dent Popula- tion 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Administra- tive County.
RATES PER 1,000 HOME POPULATION.				
<i>Births.</i>				
Live births	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5
Still births	0.35 22.4 (a)	0.43 24.8 (a)	0.34 21.4 (a)	0.38 21.0 (a)
<i>Deaths.</i>				
All Causes	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5
Typhoid & paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	—	—
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Tuberculosis	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24
Influenza	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Acute poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioen- cephalitis)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Pneumonia	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64
<i>Notifications (Corrected).</i>				
Typhoid fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03
Scarlet fever	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02
Whooping Cough	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30
Diphtheria.....	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Erysipelas	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09
Pneumonia	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73
Acute poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioence- phalitis)				
Paralytic	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07
Non-paralytic	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03
Food Poisoning.....	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.38
Puerperal pyrexia	18.23 (a)	24.33 (a)	12.46 (a)	28.61 (a)

RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.

Deaths.

All causes under 1 year of age	26.8 (b)	30.8	24.3	24.8
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age...	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

Intermediate List No. and cause.		Number of deaths	Rates per 1,000 (Live & Still)	Total Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
A115	Sepsis of pregnancy, child- birth and the puerperium ...	68	0.10		
A116	Abortion with toxæmia.....	7	0.01		1
	Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium	166	0.24		
A117	Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	90	0.13		
A118	Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia	30	0.04		3
A119	Abortion with sepsis	39	0.06		4
A120	Other complications of preg- nancy, childbirth and the puerperium	125	0.18		

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

(b) Per 1,000 related live births.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1953

Part II—Environmental Hygiene

Resume of Work carried out by the Health Department and Other Matters of Public Health Interest

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Part II—Sanitation and Buildings

BYELAWS WITH RESPECT TO BUILDINGS.—The new Byelaws with respect to Buildings in the Borough of Blyth came into operation on the 5th December, 1953.

These model building byelaws were designed to replace the previous byelaws drawn up in 1937 to allow greater elasticity in view of advances in building technique and the design and use of new materials.

REMOVAL OF REFUSE.—Amending legislation under Section 8 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, came into operation during the year to facilitate the provision of dustbins.

This gives a Court power, on an appeal which included the ground that it was not equitable that the notice should have been served on the appellant, to secure compliance with the notice either by the appellant or by the other person, having regard to the terms and conditions of the tenancy.

Whilst this may be a step in the right direction in the time saved where a Local Authority fails to obtain an order on one person and must then commence the whole procedure again by the service of notice on some other person, I am still of the opinion that the only satisfactory method of dealing with this problem is by a Municipal Dust Bin Scheme for the reasons outlined in my report of 1952.

KEEPING OF ANIMALS.—The position with regard to these is basically the same as set out in the Annual Report of 1951 with approximately 160 domestic pig-keepers in the Borough, the bulk of these being maintained on various allotments and not causing any serious nuisance.

The chief deficiencies are lack of adequate water supply, lack of adequate drainage and in some cases, unsuitable construction.

FILTHY OR VERMINOUS PREMISES OR ARTICLES.—Treatment for the eradication of insect pests involved some 183 dwellings during the year.

As a general rule follow-up visits are made at intervals to eliminate embryo pests and to supervise and advise on the cleansing and re-decoration.

Every advice and assistance is given and the Department have, by agreement with the occupiers, made arrangements to have unsuitable articles removed and destroyed.

Inspection of second-hand articles exposed for sale revealed no cause for complaint.

PUBLIC SANITARY CONVENIENCES.—A survey of all public conveniences in the Borough was made by the Department setting out in detail existing conditions and making tentative proposals for increased amenities, improvements and construction of new conveniences.

The report was adopted in principal and the Borough Engineer subsequently produced a preliminary estimate and programme for the erection and repair of conveniences, amounting to some £14,088.

In the existing scheme, particular attention has been given to facilities for Ladies but the use or abuse of such facilities should not be left entirely in the hands of the public. Although public conveniences as such should not be regarded as revenue producing, I feel some form of supervision should be maintained by the Local Authority and that the public will have no rooted objection to paying for such services, particularly where a reasonable standard of hygiene and privacy is assured.

LICENSED PREMISES.—A reasonable standard of hygiene continues to be maintained at licensed premises in the town, improvements being limited during the past year in view of the amount of work completed since 1950.

The licence of the former Slip Inn in the Regent Street area was transferred to the North Farm following the purchase and adaptation of an existing dwelling for the purpose. Completely new toilet facilities were provided for both sexes at the Kings Head Hotel and construction of a new Buffet Bar and complete re-decoration was well advanced at the end of the year.

A new Buffet Bar and additional toilet facilities for Ladies was completed at the Mason's Arms together with internal re-decoration of the premises but much more could be done to improve the surroundings which are in a derelict state following the demolition of condemned properties. It is hoped the Company will eventually purchase this site and have it laid out as a car park and open space.

Improved toilet facilities and new drainage to the cellar were provided at the Prince of Wales Inn and internal re-decoration was in hand at the end of 1953.

A new convenience for Ladies was provided at the Joiners Arms.

Various improvements are in hand or contemplated to other licensed houses and clubs and plans are advanced for additional premises on the new housing estates when building facilities are available.

Part III—Nuisances

Two thousand three hundred and fifty-two inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1953 in the investigations of nuisances and general complaints by the public.

A considerable amount of time and effort is necessarily expended on this work as a result of repeated re-inspections to ascertain whether the nuisances have been remedied, which work could be greatly minimised by more prompt attention to informal requests by the Health Department.

COLLIERY SPOILBANKS.—*Horton Grange.*—Complaint was made during the year of increased combustion from the new spoilbanks being formed but representation to the National Coal Board resulted in increased water spraying and consolidation by bull-dozing which effected considerable improvement.

New Delaval Colliery.—During the year a new section of the spoilbank was commenced with tipping direct from railway wagons at a controlled level. The National Coal Board are continuing with their policy of water spraying as the spoilbank extends.

Isabella Colliery.—This spoilbank is, without doubt, the most objectionable in the Borough and repeated and continuous efforts are made by the Health Department to effect some measure of control, but only slight improvement has been effected, principally by a policy of water spraying.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.—It is regrettable to note that no progress has been made during the year in the reduction of atmospheric pollution. In the post-war period it has been the policy of the Council to instal improved types of solid fuel heating appliances which are offset by the use of bituminous coal. This has been, to a great extent, influenced by the supply of concessionary coal to the tenants, a large proportion of whom are miners.

I would request the Council to consider the purchase of suitable survey and measuring equipment so that simple records of smoke, sulphur dioxide and other deposited matter could be readily available.

Part IV—Water Supply

The water supply to the Borough is obtained from three sources and the total amount consumed during the year was :—

<i>Source of Supply.</i>	<i>Gallons consumed.</i>
Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.	344,361,000
Tynemouth Corporation	6,248,000
Hepscott (Barmoor)	48,132,000

Bacteriological Analysis.—Ninety-four samples were taken of the principal water supplies to the Borough of which seventy-six proved to be satisfactory.

The principal cause of the unsatisfactory nature of the eighteen other samples was due to the contamination existing at the Hepscott Reservoir which, as pointed out in the 1952 Annual Report, must continue to exist in an open reservoir of this kind. Only a small quantity of water is drawn from this reservoir for the public supply, the principal source from Barmoor being drawn direct from the Colliery and thirteen samples taken from the tap at the head of the shaft (Fig. 5) all proved satisfactory. Of the comparable thirteen samples taken at the inlet pipe to the Bebside Reservoir (Fig. 7), twelve of these proved

satisfactory although the water had not then been subject to sand filtration and subsequent mixing with the Newcastle supply and chlorination.

Of the one suspicious sample of Newcastle and two suspicious samples of mixed Newcastle and Hepscott supplies (Figs. 1 and 3) there was no apparent reason for the slightly adverse results shown, as further samples procured immediately on receipt of the Public Health Laboratory reports proved perfectly satisfactory.

See Table page 53.

IMPROVEMENT IN BULK SUPPLY.—Progress towards the improvement in the bulk water supply to the Borough was made during the year by the approval by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for loan sanction in connection with the laying of a new trunk main outside the Borough and the acceptance of tenders for the provision and laying of water mains in the Borough.

Part V—Prevention, Notification and Treatment of Disease

Investigations of infectious diseases totalled 222 and in addition some 61 faecal specimens were obtained and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory; these had been primarily obtained during the surveillance of food poisoning and para-typhoid contacts.

SECTION 154.—RAG DEALERS AND ANIMATE ARTICLES.—In my opinion revision of this entire section is long overdue from a public health viewpoint so as to prohibit entirely the giving or selling or exchanging of any article whatsoever in exchange for rags, old clothes, or similar articles.

As the law stands, whilst the selling or delivering, whether gratuitously or not of any article whatsoever to a person under the age of fourteen years is deemed to be an offence under the Act, the very fact of handing such article to a person over that age, who may then immediately give it to a child, is deemed to be compliance with the law.

This, to my mind, contradicts the intention of the legislation which was to reduce the potential risk of infection to children by contact with such possible sources of infection and I would repeat that amending legislation should be sought to prohibit such trade.

Part XI—Watercourses, Ditches, Ponds, Etc.

Action during the year in connection with this Section of the Act was mainly in connection with the watercourse on the perimeter of the Wellesley Nautical School.

After protracted negotiations with the Governors of the Wellesley Nautical School, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the Agent for Lord Ridley's Estate—the parties responsible, the section of the watercourse under the Ownership of the Wellesley Nautical School was piped and filled and approval has been obtained from the Ministry for the Council to proceed with the piping and filling of their section.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.—No complaints were received during the year with regard to the licensed caravan site on the Links Road facing the foreshore, which continues to be maintained in a satisfactory hygienic manner.

Unauthorised camping took place during the year on the Old Pottery Site at South Newsham, this matter being referred to the County Planning Officer for his attention.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

Work under the Act was limited to routine inspection which amounted to 188, there being no matter of special importance to note.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Inspections under the Act totalled some 211, these being specifically in connection with heating, lighting, ventilation, temperature and the supervision of washing and sanitary accommodation.

There were in addition 453 inspections made under the Food and Drugs Act which covered the majority of the principal traders in the Borough.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

There are three persons licensed under the Act and the conditions under which animals are to be kept are being satisfactorily maintained.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

The Rodent Officer continued to carry out his duties extremely efficiently and the tables on pages 63-66 give details of investigations and treatments.

Recoveries amounted to £82 6s. 5d.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

There are no registered or licensed premises in the Borough, only two traders using filling materials for re-conditioning purposes.

In both cases the materials used satisfy the British Standards Institution Mark Scheme.

General Matters

Appended are some of the varied services carried out by the Department.

No. of houses treated for insect pests	183
No. of houses disinfected after infectious disease	48
No. of houses disinfected by request	38
No. of items of bedding and clothing disinfected by request	36
No. of items of bedding and clothing destroyed by request	283
No. of dogs humanely destroyed	301
No. of cats humanely destroyed	156
Obstructed drains cleared	77

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938-1950

The work of improving the standard of food handling and distribution in the Borough is constantly progressing and although there have not been so many structural alterations to premises during the year, there has been a continuing improvement in the provision of modern equipment and fitments such as refrigerators, refrigerated display counters and the modernisation of counters, display shelving, etc.

With the de-rationing of food supplies competition is again appearing amongst food traders and this is to be welcomed from a public health viewpoint in that it tends

to encourage the housewife to become more discriminating and the shopkeeper must necessarily strive to meet such competition by increased care in the preparation and display of his wares. This, I feel, will give added impetus to the Clean Food Campaigns so far as the sales side to the public is concerned, but the Health Department must be all the more vigilant in seeing that economies are not effected in the preparation and storage of foodstuffs.

Since the end of the war ample time has been allowed for the traders to modernise their premises and with the prospect of new legislation imminent it is hoped that the good standard achieved by the majority will be further advanced.

A point which has been previously stressed is the maintenance of a clean personal appearance by the staff (see Annual Report 1951—Page 40) but cost of providing an adequate supply and laundering of clean white overalls is a major problem to a married shop assistant. I would suggest that this could partially be overcome by the wearing of a white rubberised or nylon apron in front of the overall when any particular task which may contaminate the cloth overall is called for.

The following is a resume of the principal food traders in the Borough :—

Bakehouses	14	
Butchers	19	trading from 25 shops
Cooked Meat Manufacturers	8	„ „ 10 „
Fishmongers	6	„ „ 7 „
Fried Fish Handlers	24	
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	14	trading from 18 shops
General Dealers	80	
Grocery and Provisions	49	
Ice Cream Manufacturers	5	
Ice Cream Retailers		
(Pre-packed)	71	
Milk Suppliers (Dairies)	5	
„ „ (Bottled Only)		trading from 83 Shops
Restaurants	6	
Snack Bars	2	

BAKERIES.—Further improvements were carried out to the bakeries, these principally being by the provision of new or improved equipment and internal re-decoration.

Following inspections and interviews with the occupiers, the bakeries occupied by Messrs. Fender & Hunter, 3, Kimberley Terrace and by Mr. E. Trigg, 44, Park Road, Blyth, were closed. These bakeries were in an unsatisfactory condition structurally and following the service of a schedule of works required under the Food and Drugs Act, the Owners have agreed they shall not re-let for their original purpose.

BUTCHERS.—The standard of premises, with one or two exceptions, is generally good. No major improvements have been effected.

COOKED MEAT MANUFACTURERS.—Two new premises were registered under the Food and Drugs Act during the year, being the Blyth Co-operative Society, Ltd., Back Oxford Street and Messrs. Soulsby's, Waterloo Road (approached from Bondicar Terrace). In both instances the schedule of requirements supplied by the Department have been complied with and modern equipment installed prior to the registration. Further improvements have also been effected to the Central Pork Stores and the provision of a new shop front and internal improvements are in hand for Messrs. G. W. Maddison & Sons, Waterloo Road.

With the exception of one manufacturer's premises in the East Regent Street area, the standard is extremely good and a credit to the traders concerned. In the first case, the occupier is endeavouring to obtain alternative manufacturing premises.

FRIED FISH HANDLERS.—During the year three fried fish establishments were closed and two new registrations were granted. The structural condition of some of the existing premises is not too satisfactory and it is intended to recommend the Health Committee to review certain of these registrations in the near future.

GROCERY AND PROVISIONS.—The hygiene and structural conditions of several of these premises were further improved during the year by the addition of two new shops at the North Farm Estate, two new temporary shops at the Cowpen Estate and the conversion and improvement of Messrs. Askews, Waterloo Road, and the Blyth Co-operative Society's premises in Regent Street, together with internal redecoration of other premises.

RECORD OF ICE CREAM BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS 1951-1953

Percentage of Grades

Manufacturer	Year	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV	Remarks
No. 1	1951	80.0	—	20	—	Ceased Production 1951
No. 2	1951	33.3	66.6	—	—	
	1952	66.6	—	33.3	—	
	1953	66.6	33.3	—	—	
No. 3	1951	50.0	50.0	—	—	Ceased Production 1951
No. 4	1951	16.6	16.6	50.0	16.6	
	1952	40.0	—	60.0	—	
	1953	Nil	40.0	—	60.0	
No. 5	1951	66.6	—	33.3	—	Cold Mix Production 1953
	1952	33.3	—	33.3	33.3	
	1953	Nil	—	—	100.0	
No. 6	1952	Nil	25.0	50.0	25.0	Commenced Production 1952
	1953	Nil	33.3	33.3	33.3	
No. 7	1951	100.0	—	—	—	
	1952	100.0	—	—	—	
	1953	50.0	—	25.0	25.0	

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947-1952

The standard of clean ice cream production showed a marked decline during 1953, being principally due in my opinion to minor acts of carelessness on the part of the manufacturers and staff, rather than to a serious diminution in the standard of hygiene employed. This again emphasises the need for ceaseless vigilance on the part of the persons engaged in such production.

It has been the practice of the Health Department since the inception of bacteriological grading of Ice Cream to assist and advise producers in their production problems and where consistently adverse results have been achieved, to carry out a test check of all ingredients and production methods. In every case where this has been done GRADE I results have been obtained, emphasising again that reasonable hygienic precautions will obtain the desired result.

In continuation of this policy, a test check was carried out on ingredients and production methods of Manufacturer No. 5 following a series of Grade IV samples after transferring to Cold Mix Production. Bacteriological results of this test are shown on Page 57. Ref. No. 1 was of a sample of Ice Cream produced prior to the test by the employee responsible and this showed growth of micrococci, yeasts and saprohytic coliform bacteria, which would have resulted in a Grade IV sample. Ref. Nos. 2 and 3 were tests taken respectively of the freezer insert and the freezer scraper blades after sterilising, and Nos. 6, 7, 8 and 9 respectively were samples of the finished product prior to freezing, the raw material (cold mix powder) used, the mains water used and the finished product after freezing, all of which showed no growth and which were perfectly sterile.

The story of the damage done in the normal method of production is contained in Ref. Nos. 4 and 5, a swab of the wiping cloth used for all equipment during normal processing showing growth of micrococci and a swab of the stainless steel container used for mixing showing growth of micrococci, yeasts and saprophytic coliform bacilli, exactly similar to the sample Ref. No. 1 produced under normal conditions, which would have resulted in a Grade IV sample.

To end on a more pleasing note, it is desired to commend Messrs. Seghini of Back Alexandra Crescent, Blyth, who in 1952 were awarded a Diploma of Merit for quality, appearance and texture at the Ice Cream Exhibition held in Manchester and in 1953 were awarded a Diploma of Merit at the Dairy Show held at Olympia, London, in October.

There are five manufacturers of Ice Cream and seventy-one retailers selling pre-packed ice cream in the Borough.

FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK, DAIRIES AND ARTIFICIAL CREAM) ACT, 1950

SUPPLY.—The milk supply to the Borough is provided by the Co-operative Society's High Temperature Short-Time Pasteurising Plant, plus five dairymen retailing bottled pasteurised milk from Coast Creameries Ltd., who in addition retail tuberculin-tested pasteurised milk and eighty-three shops retailing sterilised milk.

Samples of pasteurised milk are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests (keeping quality and efficiency of pasteurisation), raw milk prior to pasteurisation for *Bacillus Tuberculosis* and milk bottles for sterility (see Page 56).

One positive notification of *Bacillus Tuberculosis* was received in respect of raw milk from a producer outside the Borough. Following the Divisional Veterinary Inspector's clinical examination of the herd, samples were submitted as a result of which two cows were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order. Further samples were submitted from the remainder of the herd and notification received that the milk was non-tuberculous.

SPECIFIED AREAS.—On the 2nd December the Minister of Food made an Order under the Regulations declaring that Blyth formed part of a prescribed area. The object of the Order is to ensure that only Designated Milks may be sold so as to achieve the highest possible standard of hygiene, but as pointed out in my report for 1949, page 29, the standard was reached unofficially at that time and has since been maintained.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS.—The number of animals inspected at the Abattoir, increased from 9,054 in 1952 to 10,551 in 1953 (see Page 58), the increase being primarily due to the number of pigs submitted for slaughter. These have increased from a mere 56 in 1950 to 2,300 in 1953 and may possibly be surpassed during 1954.

Approval was given to the expenditure of a further £512 on improvements but in view of the prospective change in slaughtering policy these have been temporarily shelved with the exception of the proposal to supply new entrance gates.

There was a slight increase in the number of condemnations in cattle slaughtered, but a reduction in the number of sheep condemned, as shown by the following table, and the quality of animal submitted remains extremely good.

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
No. killed	1,424	84	6,742	2,300
No. Condemned . .	3	5	1	1
Percentage	0.21	6	0.015	0.043

General

FOOD POISONING.—Following receipt of a Public Health Laboratory Report confirming the presence of *Salmonella Typhi-murium* in a faeces specimen of a child then a patient in the Newcastle General Hospital, investigations were made of the home conditions and examination of specimens confirmed three additional cases amongst the children.

The father of one of the children affected was employed as a driver salesman by an ice-cream manufacturer in the Borough and steps were taken under the Public Health (Infectious Disease) Regulations, 1953, to prevent him continuing his employment until he had been medically examined and a negative report obtained.

As this man was actually engaged in the service of ice-cream on the day notification was received, the ice-cream and wafers were seized and destroyed as a precautionary measure.

UNSOUND FOOD.—Two complaints were received during the year regarding the presence of insects in foodstuffs but no legal action was taken following reports on the premises concerned.

All the food manufacturing premises in the Borough either utilise the services of the Health Department or have a contract with private firms for the eradication of vermin and insects and such complaints as have been received are only isolated instances and not evidence of heavy infestations.

HOUSING

The details in connection with the Annual Return to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (see Page 62) are set out below.

HOUSING ACT, 1936

Part II—Repair, Demolition and Closing of Insanitary Premises

SECTION 9—REPAIRS.—Formal action under the Act to remedy defects was carried out in respect of one house, 16, Woods Street, Blyth, at a cost of £75.

Informal action resulted in 37, Stanley Street, let in flats, being substantially improved.

SECTION 11—DEMOLITION (*a*).—Twenty-seven individual unfit houses were the subject of representation for demolition.

In addition sixty-four houses were demolished and 194 persons re-housed. The houses demolished were principally situated in Phoenix Street and Elliott Street and Kitty Brewster Road.

(*b*).—One house, 8, Back Percy Street, was closed as a result of an undertaking given under Section 11 and one person re-housed.

SECTION 12—CLOSING.—Five individual unfit houses being parts of buildings were represented for closing, these being situated in Percy Street, Blagdon Street and Back Park Road.

In addition twenty-one houses being parts of buildings were closed and 82 persons re-housed, these being principally situated in Bowes Street.

Part III—Clearance and Development

CLEARANCE AREAS.—No representations were submitted in respect of proposed clearance areas during the year.

Following the re-housing of the occupiers, a total of 112 houses were demolished, being the Quayside Clearance Areas Nos. 1, 8 and 10, which were confirmed by the Minister of Health on the 30th March, 1938. With the exception of one or two isolated properties this completes the clearance of the Quayside Areas.

HOUSING ACT, 1949

Section 3 (1)—Preservation of certain Houses unfit for Human Habitation

One house was submitted for representation, being the property known as Chase House, 485, Cowpen Road.

One order was made in respect of High House, 408, Cowpen Road.

Following the re-housing of the eight families comprising 29 occupants, this house has been demolished.

SECTION 3 (2).—Demolition Orders were determined and Closing Orders substituted in accordance with Section 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, in respect of three houses, 19 and 21, Bowes Street, involving the displacement of 7 persons.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT, 1953

Section 10—Closing Orders in respect of certain Buildings

One Order was made in respect of 6, Parsons Street involving the displacement of one person.

General

REHOUSING.—As explained in detail in the Annual Report for 1952, the policy of pre-inspection of prospective tenants has been continued by the Health Department and a total of 521 investigations made.

This co-operation between the Housing and Health Departments has been extremely advantageous to both and the public have accepted and, in fact, welcomed the investigations without any demur.

ABATEMENT OF OVERCROWDING.—Some 222 investigations were made in respect of this.

HOUSING SURVEY.—In my report for 1950 (Page 30) I stressed the need for an up-to-date housing survey but this was not adopted and it was not until the latter end of 1953 that the Council approved the suggestion of a complete new survey in respect not only of overcrowding, but also for the purpose of assessing the structural condition of each dwelling and the provision of amenities.

This information, when completed, should be of great value in assessing the need for replacement of unfit properties and the requirements in respect of overcrowding and lack of separate dwellings.

SLUM CLEARANCE.—With the exception of the Cowpen Colliery Area, the pre-war slum clearance areas have now been cleared following re-housing of the occupiers and considerable progress has been made during the last four years in the clearance of insanitary properties by means of individual demolition and closing orders amounting to some 300 houses. This policy should considerably alleviate the drain on housing resources which may be made in the future, when impending legislation may require the declaration of further clearance areas.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.—No detailed applications were submitted during the year and no approvals were given.

CORPORATION HOUSES.—The inspection of these houses were mainly confined to the investigation of problem families and some 308 visits were made.

The Medical Officer of Health in his excellently worded article on “ Problem Families ” has adequately covered this question, but I would proffer the suggestion of some form of “ halfway house ” from which, if improvement in the living standards were achieved, the family could then be re-considered for improved accommodation. Such interim accommodation could well be provided by utilising either some of the older type of Council house or by the purchase of some suitable existing properties.

FUTURE POLICY.—The whole question of this is bound up with the proposed legislation submitted to Parliament to make further provision for the clearance and re-development of areas of unfit houses, the re-conditioning and maintenance of houses and the amendment of existing rent control.

If Parliamentary approval is obtained to this Bill the extra responsibilities which may devolve upon the Council are, the submission to the Minister of proposals to deal with houses which they consider unfit for habitation, to consider the deferment of demolition procedure to houses which have been purchased by the Local Authority in a clearance

area or subject to demolition order, if they are of the opinion that they will provide adequate temporary accommodation for the limited period, and to implement the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949, in relation to the improvement of dwellings.

Part II of the Bill deals with the power of landlords to increase the rent of controlled houses subject to the house being in good repair and reasonably suitable for occupation, having regard to the standard of fitness laid down in Part I of the Act. Provision is made enabling a tenant to apply to the Local Authority for a certificate that the conditions have not been fulfilled, following service of notice of increase by the landlord, or at any subsequent time.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Summary of Notices served

Number of Informal Notices served during the year.

WARDS.						Total.
Bebside.	Croft.	Waterloo.	Ridley.	Plessey.	Delaval.	
13	62	35	38	24	7	179

Number of Informal Notices complied during the year.

WARDS.						Total.
Bebside.	Croft.	Waterloo.	Ridley.	Plessey.	Delaval.	
4	29	12	17	11	4	77

Number of Statutory Notices served during the year.

Wards.	Sec. 39	Sec. 44	Sec. 45	Sec. 56	Sec. 75	Sec. 79	Sec. 83	Sec. 93	Sec. 138	Totals.
Bebside	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	8	—	12
Croft	9	—	8	—	7	2	—	25	—	51
Waterloo	6	—	1	—	1	—	2	14	1	25
Ridley	4	1	2	—	2	—	—	14	—	23
Plessey	7	—	2	—	2	—	—	10	—	21
Delaval	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Totals	27	1	15	—	13	2	2	74	1	135

Number of Statutory Notices complied during the year.

Wards.	Sec. 39	Sec. 44	Sec. 45	Sec. 56	Sec. 75	Sec. 79	Sec. 83	Sec. 93	Sec. 138	F & D Sec. 13	P of D by Pests Act	Hous- ing Act Sec. 9	Totals
Bebside ...	3	—	2	—	1	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	14
Croft	8	1	5	—	5	2	—	25	—	—	—	—	46
Waterloo ...	8	—	2	—	1	—	2	16	—	2	—	—	31
Ridley	4	1	1	1	1	—	—	14	—	—	1	—	23
Plessey	10	—	5	—	2	—	—	18	—	—	—	1	36
Delaval ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Totals	33	2	15	1	10	2	2	84	—	2	1	1	153

Schedule of Defects remedied during the year 1953

	Informal	Statutory	Total
Eaves gutters and downspouts	10	25	35
Eaves gutters and downspouts insufficient	—	1	1
Obstructed drains	81	3	84
Drainage	—	12	12
Waste pipes	2	6	8
Sanitary Conveniences insufficient	—	2	2
Sanitary Conveniences defective	20	19	39
Yard paving	—	1	1
Dustbins	28	13	41
Offensive accumulations	—	2	2
Verminous and dirty conditions	—	2	2
Chimney Stacks	5	4	9
Main roofs	5	11	16
External walls	3	11	14
Dangerous Buildings	1	1	2
Coalstores	—	7	7
Wash houses	1	5	6
Washing facilities	—	7	7
Wallplaster	10	19	29
Dampness	14	35	49
Ceiling and ceiling plaster	1	4	5
Fireplaces and cooking facilities	9	19	28
Smoke Nuisances	6	4	10
Food Stores	2	3	5
Windows	14	17	31
Doors	2	14	16
Floors	17	28	45
Staircases	3	5	8
Draining Boards	—	3	3
Water Supply insufficient.....	1	—	1
Water Supply unsatisfactory	3	2	5
Miscellaneous	5	2	7
Totals	243	287	530

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Water Sampling

The following water samples were taken during the year for analysis :—

Bacteriological

		<i>Number of Samples.</i>	
		<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>
1.	Newcastle and Gateshead Water	14	1 Suspicious
2.	Hepscott Water before Chlorination	12	1
3.	Mixed Hepscott and Newcastle Water after Chlorination	11	2 Suspicious
4.	Newcastle and Tynemouth Water	12	—
5.	Barmoor Water—Tap at head of Shaft	13	—
	Reservoir		11
6.	„ „ —Deep well to Hepscott Reservoir	—	2 Suspicious
7.	„ „ —Inlet pipe Bebside Reservoir	12	1
8.	„ „ —No. 1 Filter Bed Bebside Reservoir	1	—
9.	„ „ —No. 2 Filter Bed Bebside Reservoir	1	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

Form 572 (Revised).

Part 1 of the Act

I. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors) :—

Premises. (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register. (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices. (5)	Occupiers prosecuted. (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	20	42	—	—	
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	107	126	1	—	
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	2	4	—	—	
Total		129	172	1	—	

2. Cases in which Defects were found :—

Particulars. (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted. (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found. (3)	Remed- ied. (4)	To H.M. In- specter. (5)	Referred By H.M. In- specter. (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4						4
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	5						5
Unreasonable tempera- ture (S.3)	6						6
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	7						7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8						8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(a) Insufficient	9	1	1				9
(b) Unsuitable or de- fective	10				1		10
(c) Not separate for Sexes	11						11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12						12
Total	60	1	1	Nil.	1	Nil.	60

Part VIII of the Act
Outwork
(Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work. (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Section 110.			Section 111.			M/c line No. (9)
		No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council. (4)	No. of prose- cutions for failure to supply lists. (5)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some prem- ises. (6)	Notices served. (7)	Prose- cutions. (8)	
Wearing apparel making, etc.	13	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	13

Factories, 1953

	Mechanical Power.	No Mechanical Power.
Bakeries	17	—
Blacksmith	1	—
Boiler Scaling	1	—
Boot and Shoe Repairers	5	—
Cabinet Making	—	1
Car Spraying and Coach Work.....	2	—
Clothing Alterations	—	4
Clothing Manufacturers	4	—
Coppersmiths	1	—
Cooked Fish Preparations	1	—
Cooked Meat Products and Sausage	11	—
Corn Grinders	1	—
Dairies	1	—
Dry Cleaners	2	—
Electrical Engineer.....	1	—
Electro-Plating	1	—
Engineering	3	—
Foundry	2	—
Garage and Battery Charging	15	—
Gas Works	1	—
Ice Cream Manufacturers	6	—
Joinery, Stone Crushing, etc.	8	4
Marine Store and Timber	1	—
Plastics	1	—
Plumbers	1	1
Polishing	—	2
Potato Crisps	1	—
Printing	2	—
Radio and Electrical Repairs	—	4
Saddlery and Harness	—	1
Sculptor	1	—
Ship Building and Repairs	1	—
Sheet Metal and Welding	1	—
Signwriting	—	1
Slaters and Tilers	—	1
Soft Drinks and Bottling	1	—
Spring Mattresses	1	—
Sugar Confectionery	1	—
Timber Impregation	1	—
Timber Merchants	6	—
Transformer Stations	1	—
Tyre Retreading	1	—
Upholstery	1	1
Weaving	1	—
	107	20

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938-1950

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

Details of Samples taken

Samples of Raw Milk from Producers outside the Borough :—

METHYLENE BLUE		BACILLUS TUBERCULOSIS.			Total Samples.
Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Positive.	Negative.	Tests not carried out.	
22	18	1	36	3 animals died	40

Pasteurised Milk from a Producer/Retailer inside the Borough :—

METHYLENE BLUE.		PHOSPHATASE TEST.		Total Samples.
Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	
By Borough 13	—	11	1 Test Void 1 No Result	13
By County Council 30	—	29	1	30

Sterilised Milk from a Retailer inside the Borough :—
Turbidity Test, 2 Samples, Satisfactory.

Examination of Milk Bottles for Sterility.

Satisfactory.	Fairly Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Total.
46	27	5	78

Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Details of Analyst's Reports
Ice Cream.

Reg. No.	Manufacturer.	Sample taken from	Result.
1	No. 7	Continuous freezer in factory	Grade 4
2	"	Storage refrigerator in factory	" 1
3	"	Storage refrigerator in factory	" 1
4	"	Continuous freezer in factory	" 3
1	No. 5	Tricycle	" 4
2	"	Continuous freezer in factory	" 4
3	"	Continuous freezer in factory	" 4
4	"	Continuous freezer in factory	" 4
5	"	Continuous freezer in factory	" 4
1	No. 4	Storage refrigerator in shop	" 2
2	"	Service refrigerator in shop	" 4
3	"	Continuous freezer in factory	" 4
4	"	Continuous freezer in factory	" 2
5	"	Service refrigerator in shop	" 4
1	No. 2	Opened block in factory	" 1
2	"	Hardening room in factory	" 1
3	"	Hardening room in factory	" 2
1	No. 6	Continuous freezer in shop	" 2
2	"	Container in shop	" 2
3	"	Continuous freezer in shop	" 4

Swabs from equipment and samples of Ice-Cream—
Manufacturer : No. 5.

Reg. No.	Sample taken from.	Result.
1	From cold mix ice-cream	Growth of micrococci, yeasts and saprophytic coliform bacilli.
2	Swab from freezer insert after cleaning	No growth.
3	Swab from scraper blades	No growth.
4	Swab of wiping cloth	Growth of micrococci only.
5	Swab of stainless steel mixing container	Growth of micrococci, yeasts and saprophytic coliform bacilli.
6	Sample of cold mix ice-cream prepared for freezing	No growth.
7	Sample of cold mix powder	No growth.
8	Sample of water—Tap in factory	
	Newcastle and Hepscott water	Satisfactory.
9	Sample of frozen cold mix	No growth.

Other Foods

Chemical Analysis

Sample.	Analyst's Report.
1 Foreign substance in meat pie.	Insect partly charred with pastry adhering.

Bacteriological

Sample.	Result.
1 Bread.	(1) Culture reveals mixed growth of moulds. (2) Control sample unaffected.

Meat Inspection

Animals slaughtered.

Month.	Bulls	Bull- ocks	Heifers	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Totals
January	—	57	21	3	—	456	.96	633
February	—	48	19	6	—	440	90	603
March	—	77	25	9	—	528	164	803
April	—	78	35	6	—	337	195	651
May	—	72	35	10	—	211	221	549
June	—	—	45	1	1	681	126	854
July	—	74	59	7	—	355	98	593
August	—	61	122	5	—	562	100	850
September	—	157	112	1	—	866	158	1294
October	—	69	63	8	—	999	321	1460
November	—	10	95	13	—	731	336	1185
December	—	41	49	15	—	576	395	1076
Totals	—	744	680	84	1	6742	2300	10551

1509

Totals 1952	1	704	752	145	—	6476	996	9074
-------------	---	-----	-----	-----	---	------	-----	------

1602

It was found necessary to condemn the following carcases, flesh and organs :—

		<i>Weight in lbs. of Carcase.</i>	<i>Weight in lbs. of Offal.</i>	<i>Total Weight in lbs.</i>
On account of :—				
Generalised Tuberculosis	Cow No. 1	490	108	598
	Cow No. 2	609	158	767
	Cow No. 3	535	136	671
	Heifer No. 1	608	148	756
	Heifer No. 2	622	169	791
	Steer No. 1	778	170	948
Johnes Disease	Cow No. 1	350	130	480
Emaciation & Oedema	Cow No. 1	323	106	429
Total—5 Cows, 2 Heifers and 1 Steer		4315	1125	5440
Septic Pneumonia	Lamb No. 1	26	10	36
Miliary Tuberculosis	Pig No. 1	180	28	208

The following part carcases and organs were found in the course of inspection to be unfit for human consumption :—

		No.	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
Cattle :	Part carcases and/or organs	807	8773
Sheep :	Part carcases and/or organs	85	400
Pigs :	Part carcases and or organs	90	1056
Beef :	Forequarters	3	326
	Forequarters (Parts)	4	164
	Hindquarters	1	218
	Hindquarters (Parts)	2	86
	Trimming		431
Pork			627
Head and Hindquarter of Sow			178
Hind Legs of Pig		2	18
Pigs Liver			2½
Mutton			40

Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937

The following imported meats were condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

			Weight in lbs.
On account of :—			
Black Mould	32 Lamb carcasses		1304
	No.		
Beef—Hindquarters	5		778
Hindquarters (Parts)	3		185½
Forequarters	1		133
Forequarters (Parts)			40
Steaking Cuts			58
Ox Tails			36
Mutton			26½
Corned Beef	2 tins		12

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

Form P.S. 99436/1

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	1424	84	6742	2300
Number inspected	1424	84	6742	2300
All diseases except Tuberculosis :				
(1) Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	2	1	—
(2) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	602	32	89	44
(3) Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than Tuberculosis	42.27	40.47	1.3	1.9
Tuberculosis only :				
(1) Whole carcasses condemned ...	3	3	—	1
(2) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	64	20	—	50
(3) Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuber- culosis	4.7	27.4	—	2.2

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 to 1950. Other Foods.

The following foodstuffs were found in the course of inspection to be unfit for human consumption and were treated as follows :—

Cooked Ham	Tins destroyed	105	Sauce	Bottles destroyed	1
Milk	„	443	Milk	„	1
Fruit	„	890	Pickled		
Vegetables	„	336	Onions	Jars destroyed	1
Tomatoes	„	604	Preserves	„	1
Fish	„	47	Potted Ham	„	1
Meat	„	373	Chicken	„	5
Steak	„	26	Cheese	Boxes	45
Jellied Veal	„	27	Cake	„	16
Beef Sausage	„	39	Chicken	Destroyed	10½ lbs
Gammon	„	5	Pig Tongue	„	14 „
Sausage & Beans	„	7	Brisket Beef	„	1 „

Tongue	Tins destroyed	71	Pork Sausage destroyed	205	lbs.
Mincemeat	„	9	Beef Sausage „	120	„
Chicken	„	8	Cooked Ham „	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	„
Turkey	„	1	Spam „	$\frac{1}{2}$	„
Pudding	„	2	Jellied Veal „	7	„
Stewed Pork	„	15	Pressed Beef „	18	„
Corned Beef	„	7	Chopped Pork „	3	„
Corned Mutton	„	1	Luncheon Meat „	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	„
Cheese Spread	„	57	Dessicated		
Cream	„	8	Coconut „	130	„
Rabbit	„	1	Cheese Spread—		
Stew	„	2	Moulds „	48	„
Preserves	„	2	Chocolate Teacakes		
Patent Barley	„	5	Tins (128 per tin)		
Soup	„	2	destroyed	16	„
Nescafe	„	2	Custard Cream „	204	doz.
Cornbeef Cereal	„	16	Eggs „	461	
Mushroom	„	1	Fish Cakes „	36	
Molasses	„	1	Chickens		
Kidney	„	1	(Whole) „	17	
Salad	„	6			

HOUSING ACTS, 1936-1949

Re-Housing

Number of Families granted Council Houses, 1953,
as per lists received from Rates Department.

	B.	C.	D.	P.	R.	W.	From Outside Borough	Totals.
<i>By Points Scheme :</i>								
To Cowpen Road Estate	21	61	15	27	16	49	1	190
„ Cowpen Road Estate—T.B. Cases.....	2	7	1	5	1	7		23
„ Bebside Estate—T.B. Cases ...					1			1
„ North Farm Estate						1		1
„ Pre-fabs	1		1		1	3		6
„ Other Council Estates		4	1	2	3	2		12
„ Other Council Estates—T.B. Cases.....						2		2
	24	72	18	34	22	64	1	235
<i>By Slum Clearance, Demolition and Closing Orders :</i>								
To Cowpen Road Estate	40	5	2	10	3	39		99
„ Cowpen Road Estate—T.B. Cases.....						1		1
„ Bebside Estate	1							1
„ Other Council Schemes	1	1	3	3	1	4		13
	42	6	5	13	4	44		114

B—Bebside, C—Croft, D—Delaval, P—Plessey, R—Ridley, W—Waterloo.

26 T.B. cases were re-housed in Council Estates from houses not in Clearance Areas or houses subject to Demolition or Closing Orders.

Housing Report, 1953

Houses completed in 1953.

Permanent Traditional	—	Direct Labour	207
„	„	Contractors	26
Permanent Non-Traditional	Wimpey		100
Houses in progress, 31st December, 1953.			
Permanent Traditional	—	Direct Labour	102
„	„	Contractors	76
Houses approved by Ministry of Housing and Local Government but not commenced 31st December, 1953			
			15
Permanent houses completed by Private Enterprise, 1953			
			4
Houses completed Post-War.			
Traditional			1361
Pre-fabs	—	Tarran	44
„	„	Aluminary Temporary	106
„	„	Aluminary Permanent	59
„	„	B.I.S.F. Permanent	72
Permanent Non-Traditional—Wimpey “ No Fines ”			100

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

Return for the year ended 31st December, 1953

Part A.—Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1936)

Form P. 13 (HSG).

	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in period.		Number of persons displaced.
	Unfit Houses.	Other Houses.	
(1) Land coloured " pink "	112	—	362
(2) Land coloured " grey "	—	Nil.	Nil.

Part B.—Houses not included in Clearance Areas

	Houses	Persons displaced.
DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS.		
(1) Housing Act, 1936.		
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11	64	194
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 11, and still in force...	1	1
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Section 12)	21	82
(2) Housing Act, 1949.		
(a) Closing Orders made under Section 3 (1)	1	29
(b) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3 (2)	3	7
(3) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, Closing Orders made under Section 10 (1).....	1	1
		Number of Houses*

REPAIRS.

INFORMAL ACTION.

- | | |
|--|----|
| (4) Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts | 77 |
|--|----|

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

- | | | |
|---|--|------|
| (5) Public Health Acts. | | |
| Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices (a) by owners | | 153 |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | | Nil. |
| (6) Housing Act, 1936. | | |
| Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) (a) by owners | | Nil. |
| (b) by local authority in default of owners | | 1 |

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for 15 months ended 31st March, 1954.

Form PDP/R.3.

	Type of Property.				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including business premises)	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2)	29	9919	34	925	10907
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during the 15 months ended 31st March, 1954 as a result of (a) notification (b) survey under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 (c) otherwise e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose. (Notes 1, 2 & 3) ...	(a) 7	162	1	80	250
	(b) 22	58	33	588	701
	(c) Nil.	3205	—	257	3462
III. Number of properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be infested by rats (Notes 1, 2 and 3)	major 7	Nil.	1	4	12
	minor 8	52	10	33	103
IV. Number of properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be seriously infested by mice. (Notes 1, 2 and 3)	4	152	Nil.	84	240
V. Number of infested properties (see Sections III & IV) treated by the Local Authority. (Notes 1, 2 and 3)	19	204	11	121	355
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4 :					
(1) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by the Local Authority following the issue of a notice under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—
VIII. Legal Proceedings	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
IX. Number of " block " control schemes carried out	13				

SEWER RAT TREATMENT SUMMARY

Form 1/R/3656.

Sewer Form 6.

(1) Section	(2) Number of Manholes	(3) Number not baited	(4) Number baited	(5) (6) (7) (8) Average prebait taken				If recording done on 4th Day				13 Number bodies found.	14 Number trays fixed.	15 Number used by Rats.
								9	10	11	12			
				C*	P*	Total takes	N.T.*	C.	P.	Total takes	N.T.			
Treatment No. 1 Maintenance (1) Bait base and poison used : 2½% Zinc Phosphide and Sausage Rusk.														
(2) Number of manholes baited ... 40	83	68	15	8	1	9	6	—	8	8	1	1	2	1
(3) Number of manholes showing prebait take ... 19	145	131	14	2	4	6	8	—	14	6	—	1	3	1
(4) Number of manholes showing complete prebait take ... 12	158	147	11	2	2	4	7	—	3	3	1	—	—	—
Totals	386	346	40	12	7	19	21	—	17	17	2	2	5	2
Treatment No. 2 Maintenance (1) Bait base and poison used : 2½% Zinc Phosphide and damp Sausage Rusk.														
(2) Number of Manholes baited ... 41	83	67	16	5	3	8	8	—	8	8	—	—	2	2
(3) Number of manholes showing prebait take ... 15	145	131	14	3	1	4	10	—	4	4	—	—	2	1
(4) Number of manholes showing complete prebait take ... 13	158	147	11	2	1	3	8	—	3	3	—	1	—	—
Totals	386	345	41	10	5	15	26	—	15	15	—	1	4	3

Treatment. 10% Test. (1) Total number of man- hole in foul and connected systems 1069 (2) Number of manholes treated ... 127 (3) Number of manholes showing prebait take ... 4 (4) Number of manholes showing complete prebait take ... 4 (5) Test baiting : (a) Number of manholes treated ... 4 (b) Number of tested manholes showing bait take ... 4 (6) Bait Base. Damp Sausage Rusk. No Poison used.	(1) Section	(2) Number of Manholes	(3) Number not baited	(4) Number baited	(5) (6) (7) (8) Average prebait taken				If recording done on 4th Day				13 Number bodies found.	14 Number trays fixed.	15 Number used by Rats.
					C*	P*	Total takes	N.T.*	9	10	11	12			
	Area 1	170	145	25	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	25	—	—	—	—	—	2	Nil.
	Area 2	77	66	11	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	11	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	Nil.
	Area 3	83	73	10	3	Nil.	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	4	1
	Area 4	145	131	14	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	14	—	—	—	—	—	3	Nil.
	Area 5	117	104	13	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	13	—	—	—	—	—	3	Nil.
	Area 6	72	62	10	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	10	—	—	—	—	—	3	Nil.
	Area 7	150	135	15	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	15	—	—	—	—	—	3	Nil.
	Area 8	158	140	18	1	Nil.	1	17	—	—	—	—	—	3	Nil.
	Area 9	97	86	11	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	11	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	Nil.
	Totals	1069	942	127	4	Nil.	4	123	—	—	—	—	—	21	1

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

During 1953, the following treatments were carried out by the Rodent Officer.

Type of Premises	No.	Baits laid	Traps laid	Ozs. Poison bait taken	No. of Bodies		Est. Kill Rats	No. of Visits
					Rats	Mice		
Dwelling Houses	119	630	44	434½	12	106	52	331
Food Shops	31	406	9	260½	—	75	3	94
Other Shops	17	174	—	124	—	31	—	52
Bakeries	10	135	3	70	—	17	—	31
Bakers Shop	2	15	—	7	—	—	—	6
Cafes	3	33	—	6½	—	—	—	7
Canteens	2	72	—	51	—	11	—	5
Fish Shops	2	20	—	14	—	2	—	6
Butchers Shops ...	1	10	—	7	—	3	—	3
Greengrocers Shops	3	23	—	14½	—	2	—	9
Dairies	3	26	—	11	—	2	—	9
Potato Crisp								
Factory	1	20	—	19	—	5	—	3
Social Clubs	2	52	—	23	2	3	12	7
Schools	3	53	—	26	—	9	—	9
Offices	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	3
Cinema	1	153	—	98	—	17	—	3
Clothing Factory	1	25	—	7½	—	—	—	3
Allotments	8	144	—	160½	32	—	104	32
Gardens	30	157	—	272½	32	—	154	134
Poultry Houses ...	4	37	—	35½	—	—	16	15
Poultry Farm	1	40	—	9½	4	—	23	5
Stables	3	55	—	49	1	14	5	10
Granary	1	25	—	31	—	27	—	3
Piggeries	7	106	—	33½	26	—	81	35
Garages	4	34	—	19½	—	1	8	18
Refuse Tips	5	623	—	153	89	—	381	21
Railway Embankment	3	126	—	31	17	—	76	15
Colliery Yard	2	108	—	58	5	—	84	10
Warehouse	1	20	—	10	—	4	—	3
Contractors Yard	1	4	—	25	1	—	6	4
Shipyard	1	257	—	20	7	3	38	13
River Wall	1	45	—	10	2	—	25	4
Open Ditch	1	49	—	15	5	—	37	4
Sewers	—	339	—	69	8	—	170	12
								Baiting 567 points
Farms	6	157	Nettings Dogs	185	59	139	166	31
Corn Stacks	—	—	Nettings Dogs	—	21	70	21	2
Corporation			17 Holes					
Property	7	123	Gassed	125½	6	6	62	28
Reservoir	1	—	60 Holes Gassed	—	2	—	40	2
Totals	289	4298	59 Traps 77 Holes Gassed Nettings Dogs	2486	331	547	1564	982
								Baiting points 576

Sanitary Section—Details of Inspections.

Number of inspections made during the year 1953	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Totals
(a) <i>Public Health Act, 1936.</i>														
Inspections following complaints in general	49	49	39	57	63	26	49	45	45	32	48	43	545	
Re-inspections <i>re</i> outstanding notices.....	101	142	96	91	84	96	98	85	66	103	99	86	1147	
Dirty and verminous premises	6	19	12	9	17	7	18	22	53	54	26	35	278	
Drainage	15	24	8	5	13	13	8	15	12	10	6	7	136	
Keeping of Animals	2	2	4	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	12	
Licensed premises	7	6	2	8	9	1	6	7	5	—	—	—	51	
Moveable Dwellings	—	—	—	1	—	5	3	8	—	—	—	—	17	
Offensive Trades	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	
Piggeries	5	4	2	3	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	22	
Places of Public Entertainment	3	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	7	
Spoilbanks	4	—	3	2	5	4	—	4	—	—	4	4	30	
Water Supplies	—	3	5	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	
Workplaces	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	
Smoke Nuisances	9	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	15	
Sanitary Conveniences	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	18	37	—	—	69	
													2352	2352
(b) <i>Housing Act, 1936.</i>														
Investigations and Overcrowding	7	9	7	6	4	—	12	5	13	30	114	15	222	
Houses in Clearance Areas	1	72	3	63	71	12	13	5	141	22	1	5	409	
Squatters Camps	—	3	2	—	—	—	4	—	2	10	1	2	24	
Corporation Houses	6	14	15	19	16	—	8	2	40	26	147	15	308	
Inspections prior to Estates Committee ...	66	—	74	60	19	39	98	15	33	33	55	29	521	
PART II H.A. 1936.														
<i>Inspection of Houses :</i>														
Section 9 Repairs	—	—	2	1	3	—	2	—	2	1	1	1	13	
„ 11 Demolition Orders	13	25	46	18	23	7	5	—	22	23	7	11	200	
„ 12 Closing Orders	2	3	2	1	4	2	10	—	2	12	—	6	44	

Number of inspections made during the year 1953	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Totals
PART III.														
Section 34 Proposed Re-Development Area	99	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	99	
<i>Housing Act, 1949.</i>														
Applications re Improvement Grant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8	
													1848	4200
(c) <i>Factories Act, 1937.</i>														
Inspection of Factories (a) Mechanical Power	12	8	15	11	7	13	9	8	8	10	16	9	126	
(b) No Mechanical Power	5	3	2	6	1	4	2	1	5	4	4	5	42	
(c) Other Premises ...	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	
(d) Outworkers Dwellings ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	16	
													188	4388
(d) <i>Shops Act, 1950.</i>														
Sanitary and other arrangements in shops	1	7	6	14	7	9	14	53	8	27	5	60	211	4599
(e) <i>Pests Act, 1948.</i>														
Inspections of Allotments	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
„ „ Dwelling Houses	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	6	—	9	
„ „ Other Properties	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	5	
„ „ Council Properties	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	
													20	4619

Number of inspections made during the year 1953		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Totals
(f) <i>Infectious Diseases (Notification) Acts.</i>															
Investigations made		16	8	15	16	23	15	13	20	23	19	26	12	206	
" " <i>re</i> Food Poisoning		—	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	
Contacts															4841
(g) <i>Food and Drugs Act, 1938 to 1950.</i>															
Abattoir—Meat Inspection		16	31	30	37	33	31	41	41	56	59	58	51	484	
Cottagers' Pigs		—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	
Examination of Unsound Foodstuffs		15	13	9	15	15	18	17	13	18	18	9	24	184	
Bakehouses		5	2	6	3	2	—	18	11	3	—	1	8	59	
Bakery and Confectionery Shops		—	5	1	3	—	—	1	2	1	2	1	7	23	
Butchers' Shops		3	10	1	6	4	7	9	15	6	8	23	10	102	
Fish and Chip Shops		2	—	—	1	2	4	1	7	3	5	—	2	27	
General Dealer Shops		2	2	3	2	1	1	2	15	3	4	3	—	38	
Greengrocers' Shops		2	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	2	—	4	13	
Grocery and Provision Shops		7	6	4	7	9	9	14	9	10	10	5	17	107	
Preserved Food Premises.....		—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	3	2	1	15	
Wet Fish Shops		—	1	—	1	—	—	1	4	1	1	1	—	10	
Food Manufacturing Premises		1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	
Ice Cream Premises : (a) Manufacturing ...		3	1	—	5	9	8	12	5	8	2	—	—	53	
(b) Retail		—	—	2	3	1	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	11	
Restaurants and Cafes		5	6	4	1	6	—	3	5	—	4	21	1	56	
Market Stalls		23	36	27	39	34	33	53	34	43	53	9	37	421	
Food Vehicles		6	10	6	10	11	10	16	9	11	20	7	4	120	
														1729	6570

Number of inspections made during the year 1953		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Totals
(h) <i>Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.</i>															
Inspection of Dairies and Equipment		1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	8	
Heat Treatment Plant		—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Milk Shops		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	18	2	25	61	1	108	
														117	6687
(i) <i>Miscellaneous.</i>															
Number of Visits in connection with Milk Samples		5	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	4	—	53	
Number of Visits in connection with Milk Bottles		6	6	6	6	12	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	78	
Number of Visits in connection with Water Samples		7	7	7	7	7	7	12	7	12	7	7	7	94	
Number of Visits in connection with Ice Cream Samples		—	—	—	—	4	4	7	4	4	—	—	—	21	
Miscellaneous Inspections		9	16	36	9	6	4	14	19	7	12	9	26	167	
Interviews		70	41	28	38	31	25	87	75	56	59	39	42	591	
Number of houses treated for the eradication of insect pests		11	16	15	21	21	20	20	8	8	13	11	19	183	
Number of houses disinfected after infectious diseases		4	5	5	6	4	4	6	2	3	3	3	3	48	
Number of houses disinfected by request		2	1	3	1	6	3	3	4	4	4	6	1	38	
Number of items of bedding, clothing, etc. disinfected by request		2	—	2	—	—	1	—	4	—	12	9	—	30	
Number of items of bedding, clothing, etc. destroyed by request		9	15	19	21	25	30	26	19	47	30	15	27	283	
Choked drains cleansed		6	11	5	7	4	8	8	2	3	4	8	11	77	
														1663	9354

